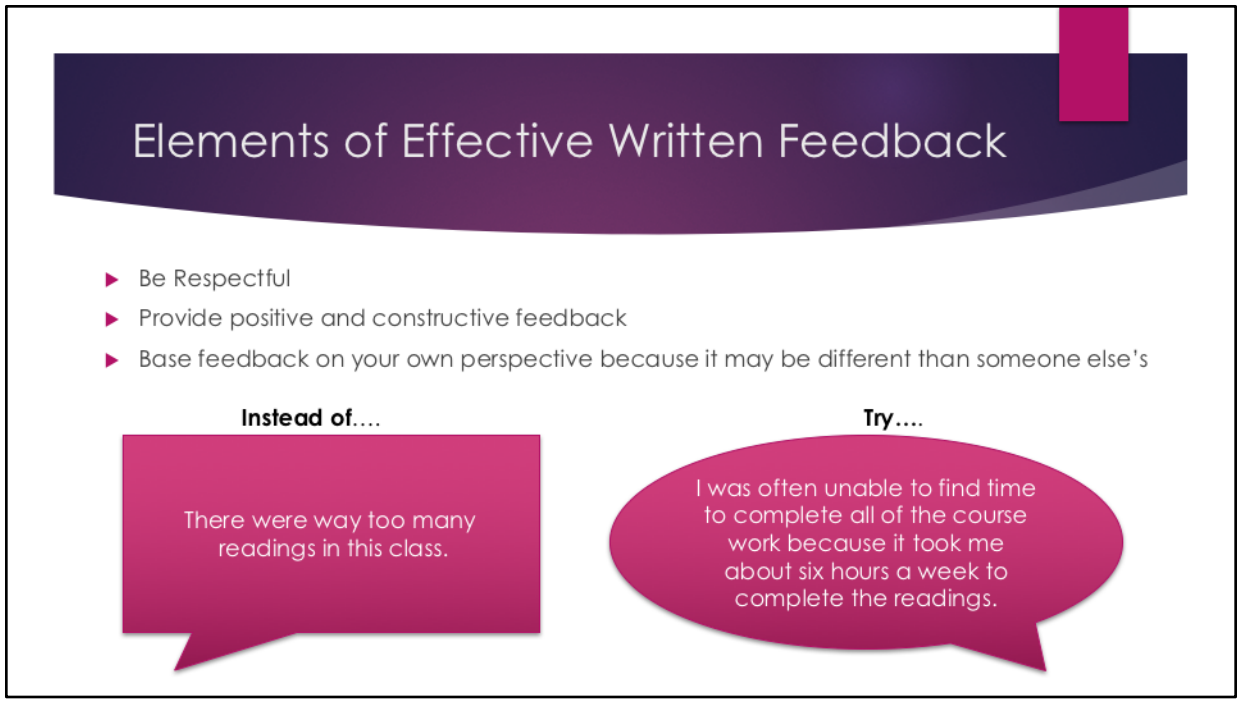
your Feedback matters!
Writing Effective Feedback
Western
UNIVERSITY · CANADA

Why Do Effective Written Comments Matter?

"Piled Higher and Deeper" by George Cham

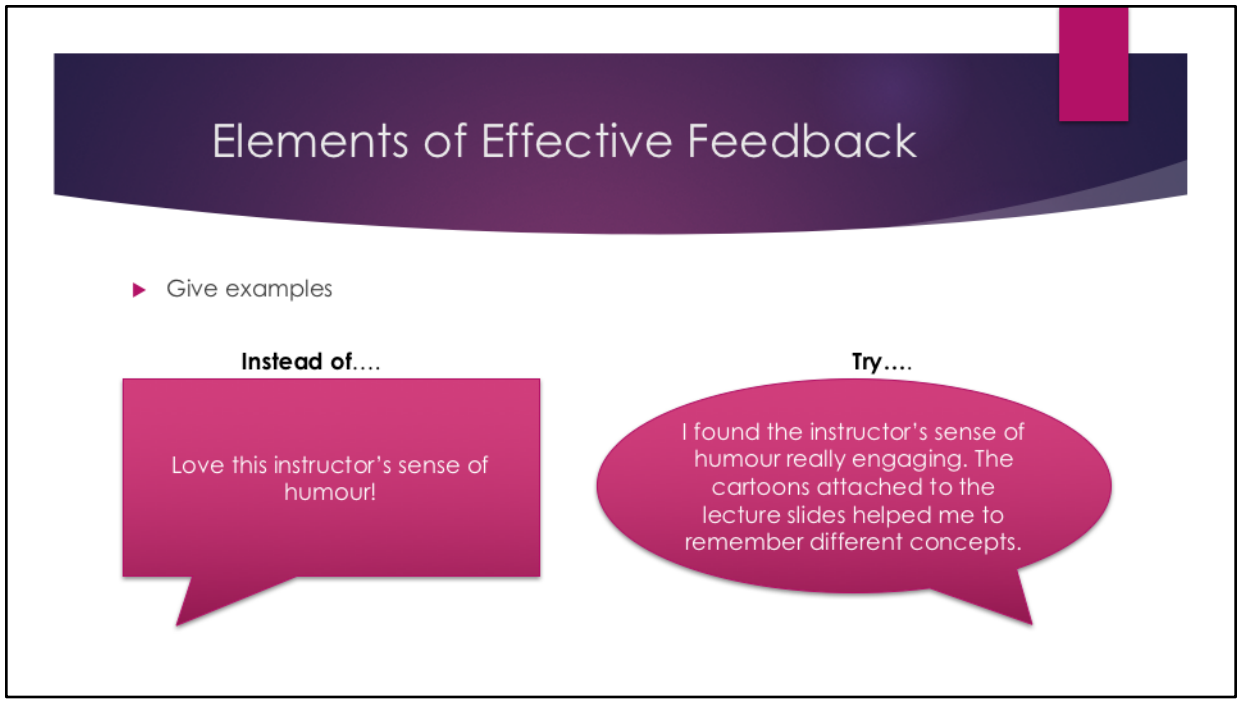
- Feedback needs to be clear and specific in order for it to be helpful for the recipient, unlike in this comic
- Effective written comments help instructors to interpret students' numerical ratings on the *Your Feedback* questionnaires.
- Providing written feedback gives insight into rating choice. They help instructors specifically identify what students value and would like to see continue, as well as where improvements might enhance teaching and courses.
- Comments can also be used to suggest specific future changes to teaching or courses.
- For this to happen, written comments need to clearly communicate how students' individually experience instruction and courses.



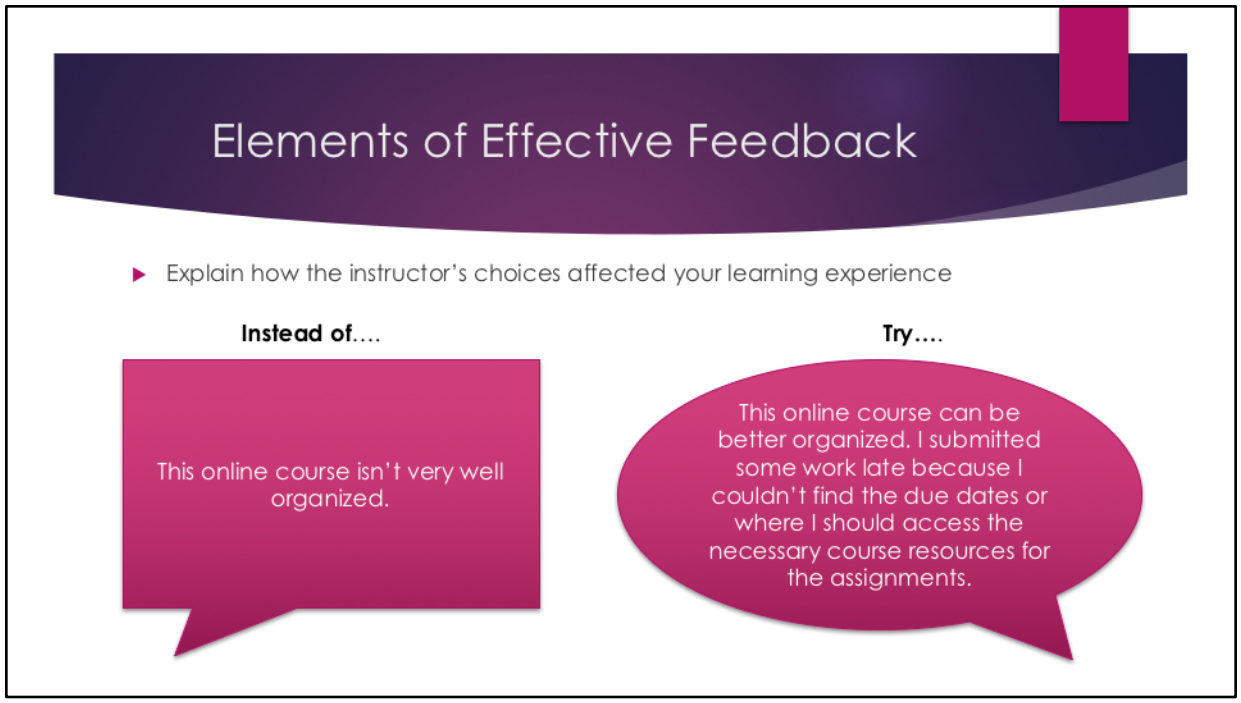
- Be Respectful: No one is inclined to listen to feedback when it's insulting, rude, or threatening. Don't make demeaning comments about race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, etc.

- Provide Positive *and* Constructive Feedback: Reading only negative feedback can be overwhelming and disheartening. Be sure to tell instructors what you valued about the course and instruction as well.

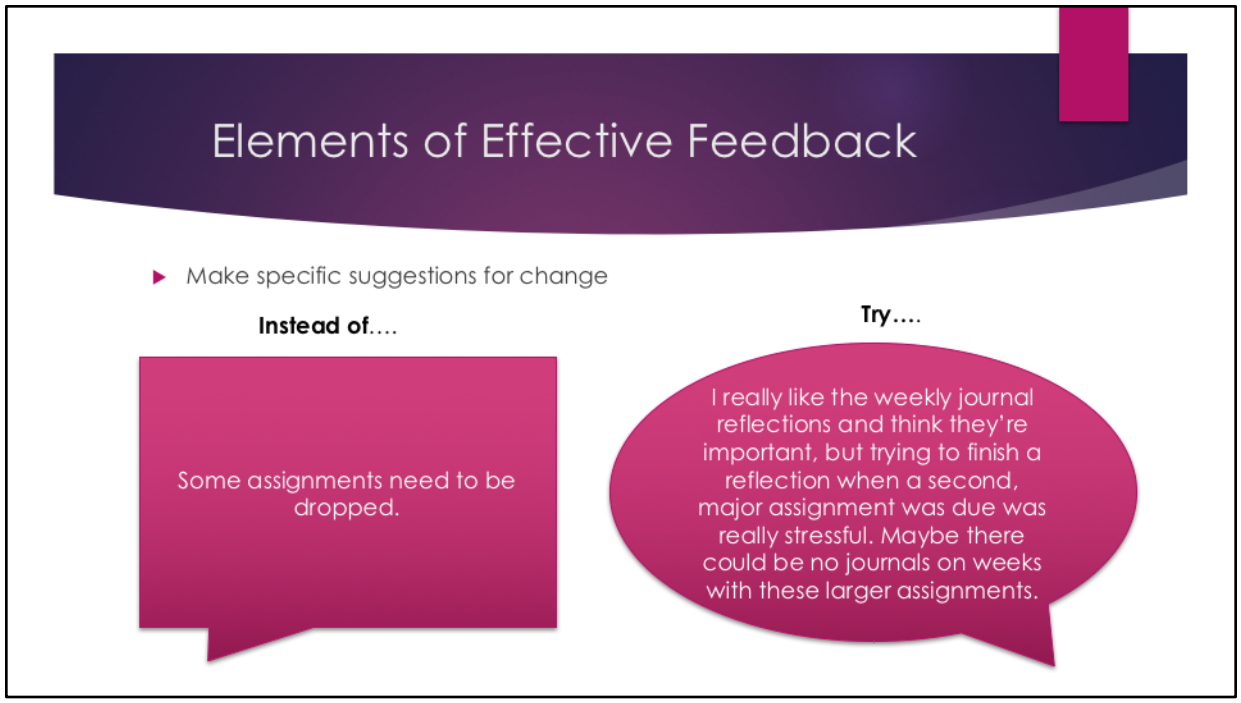
- Base Feedback on Your Own Perspective: Don't assume that your perspectives and experiences are shared by everyone in the class. (before and after example)



- Specific examples let instructors know what you think they should or should not continue doing and why you found specific approaches to teaching helpful.



- Instructors need to know the outcomes of their teaching and course structure.
- This is an opportunity for you to directly communicate how the course impacted your experience as a learner.



- Make specific suggestions for change rather than just pointing out an issue

Remember:

- Be Respectful
- Provide positive *and* constructive feedback
- Base feedback on your own perspective
- Give examples
- Explain how the instructor's choices affected your learning experience
- Make specific suggestions for change

your Feedback matters!
For more information visit:
www.YourFeedback.uwo.ca
Western
UNIVERSITY · CANADA